Application No.: 10/596293 Amendment Dated: January 5, 2009 Reply to Office action of: December 11, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of

claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing adjustment shafts (1; 2)

comprising a metallic shaft and a noise-abating, non-metallic external cladding (1.3;

2.3) situated between cladding-free shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1), where, starting with a

metallic shaft strand (3) continuously fitted with said external cladding, said cladding

is removed in the zone (a; b) of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) by at least one

externally applicable brush (4 or 5).

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, where the external

cladding (1.3; 2.3) is removed along the zone (a: b) of axially continuous shaft ends

(1.2; 2.1) of two consecutive adjustment shafts (1; 2) and thereupon the shaft strand

(3) is severed in a transition region of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1).

(Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least

one brush (4 or 5), in particular in the form of a motor-driven rotary brush, is

approached radially.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least

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one externally and preferably radially approachable brush (4 or 5) is pivoted tangentially about the metallic shaft strand (3) in the sense of a progressive peripheral removal of the external cladding (1.3; 2.3) from said strand.

- 5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,wherein the brush (4 or 5) is approached in a manner that the radial length of its bristles (4.1 or 5.1) operationally extends maximally as far as the peripheral surface of the bared shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1).
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shaft strand (3) is fitted in the region of the bared shaft-ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) with a geometrically interlocking torque transmitting connector of which an outer contour deviates from the circular form and in particular is square.

7. - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one brush (4 or 5), in particular in the form of a motor-driven rotary brush, is approached radially.

13. - 14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) A adjustment shaft made by a process of: starting with a metallic shaft strand (3) continuously fitted with an external cladding, removing said cladding in the

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zone (a; b) of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) by at least one externally applicable brush (4 or 5).

16. (New) A adjustment shaft (1; 2) comprising a metallic shaft and a noise-abating, non-metallic external cladding (1.3; 2.3) situated between cladding-free shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1), made by the process of: starting with a metallic shaft strand (3) continuously fitted with said external cladding, removing said cladding the zone (a; b) of the shaft ends (1.1; 1.2; 2.1) by at least one externally applicable brush (4 or 5).